

ABSTRACT

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A method of controlling a surgical cutting device, the device including a hollow needle with a port for tissue entry and a moveable cutting blade for severing tissue entering the needle through [said port,] the blade being movable between a first portion enabling tissue entry through [said port] and a second portion closing [said port,] the tissue entering the needle being severed as the blade moves between the first and second portions, the method includes the steps: a) providing vacuum to [said hollow needle] to cause tissue entry into the needle through [said port;] b) moving the blade from the first portion to the second position to sever the tissue entering the needle; c) evacuating severed tissue from the needle by vacuum; d) reducing vacuum to the needle before moving the blade from the second position to the first position; and repeating steps (a) through (d).

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